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Editor



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QUITS THE CHURCH

PRESBYTERIAN MINISTER NO LONGER AGREES WITH WEST-MINISTER CONFESSION OF FAITH.

Rocheater, N. Y., April 11.—A

Presbyterian minister, much of which was passed in this city as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Rqy. Dr. Nelson W. Millard today announced his withdrawal from the Presbyterian Church.

In a letter to the Presbyterian announcing his step, Dr. Millard says: "Dissenting, as I do, from much of the Westminster confession of faith, and finding many of my differences not removed by the explanatory statement recently adopted by the General Assembly, I have come to the conclusion that I am in duty and honor bound to withdraw from the Presbyterian Church. It is a step that I would gladly have avoided had I felt that I could do so conscientiously and honorably."

Twenty years ago all Presbyterians believed, or professed to believe—nearly all of them being liars, and especially the sky-busters—that all babies that had not been run through the holy hocus pocus of having a Presbyterian to sprinkle some water on them, out of a big spittoon that was stuck up on a post, or a tin cup, tea cup, tumbler, gourd, oyster can, or just any old thing, went to hell and "gnashed their toothless gums"—that's what the rascals called it—in everlasting fire and brimstone. Old Beecher kicked agin it, but he had gotten himself all mixed with Bessie Turner and Mrs. "what's her name" and he didn't count much.

Then Briggs kicked like a Texas steer, and that counted a big lot and then Lyman Abbott gave Presbyterianism a black eye by being agin, and Talmage gave it another black eye by being for it, and it has gone on now, until the only Presbyterian in the United States, that has any standing, is my nephew, Dabney, of the University of Cincinnati, and I want him to remain a Presbyterian as long as he lives, and then be preserved in alcohol when he dies, and be put in the Simian department of a zoological museum, along side of a stuffed Gorilla, the Presbyterian and the Gorilla, now becoming extinct, along with the Ichthyosaurus, Ignanodon and Gullerimusgascutus, and in a few years young people who read about Presbyterians that used to be, will want to know what kind of looking things they were, and I would hate for any body to think that any body kin to me was anything like Sitting-Bull, or Hollow-Horn-Horse, or Hole-in-the-Day, or Stick in the mud or Man-afraid-or-his-horse, (or wife either), or any of those gentle savages, all of whom are "good Injuns" when they are dead, and that I met out in the Injun Territory, when I went out there to "debate" with that Campbellite liar, Wilkinson, and a h— of a "debate" it was.

RELIGIOUS DISPUTE CAUSES A KILLING.

A Quarrel Over Whether Joshua Made The Sun Stand Still Ends Fatally For One.

Guthrie, Okla., April 10.—Sheriff Bart Murphy to-night arrested John Blackwell, who last night shot and fatally injured his neighbor, Arthur Bradshaw, as a result of a quarrel over religion. They attended church together last night, and homeward bound they became involved in a dispute as to whether or not Joshua made the sun stand still, as related by the preacher in his sermon. Upon reaching home they renewed the quarrel and Blackwell shot Bradshaw.

GIRLS TELL REVOLTING STORY.

Shawnee, Okla., April 10.—E. E. Williams, formerly a negro preacher, with his wife and three daughters, has been under police surveillance for some time, and Saturday night a raid discovered a negro man with one of his daughters. The whole family was arrested and after being assured that the police would not let

the old man, of whom the story is told, fear, hurt, them, the old man, a horrible story of how they tried to make them meet in their home, taking the money, and for this inhuman method of getting it himself. One of the girls, 14 years old said she had seen her father while in Memphis a year or two ago. The story has aroused so much indignation that the county officer took into the case. Williams and his wife were held in \$200 bond and the police court while the affair was investigated.

JERKED TO JEOPARDY.

The matlahachle (Texas) inter-prise, has been sent to the man, probably a half-baked Cherokees, who tore the label off to hide his page.

Along the whole top of the page are the words "John Henry Young pays the death penalty on 'gal-lows,' and a whole page is devoted to his taking off.

The paper states that ethnical Col Young was of the colored persuasion, but was educated and a "so-called" financially.

Col. Young, in anticipation of his approaching taking off, was baptized by the ducking process, showing that theologically, he was all hunky-dory.

He rode to the scaffold with his head leaning on the shoulder of one, Rev. Poole, and saying all the time that he was innocent.

A part of the Colonel's prattle was as follows:

"From 7:30 to 8:30 Thursday night religious service was held in front of Young's cell. Several songs were sung and a number of prayers offered. Those who held the service admonished the doomed man to go courageously to the scaffold and to meet death bravely, putting his trust completely in an All Wise Being.

"Where shall I meet you in eternity?" asked one of the preachers. "In heaven," was the reply of Young.

When the preachers were parting from him he told them he felt sure he was saved and that he was going to heaven."

The little inadvertency for which Colonel Young was hung (poetry) was as follows:

A "cullud gemmen" by the distinguished name of Moore was deporting himself all properly as all people of that name are apt to do, and was sitting on the side of the creek with his wife, fishing Young sneaked through the bushes, behind Moore and shot him, with a shot gun, in the back of his head, blowing nearly all of his head off. Young shot at him the second time and missed him. The second shot was a wanton waste of ammunition for which Col. Young is to be censured as the first shot blew nearly all of my namesake's head off.

Young did this because he was dead stuck on Mrs. Moore, and she blewed on him.

Young flung (more poetry) Moore's body into deep water in the creek, where it was found 8 days afterward.

When the Colonel was hung the crowd, black and white, joined in the hymn, "I am going home." I reckon he got there, Eli.

"JOHN THE BAPTIST" IS DEAD.

Woodcliff, N. J., April 3.—"John the Baptist," of the Angel Dancers of Lord's Farm, has killed himself in a fit of religious frenzy. He shot himself through the heart with a rifle, pulling the trigger with his bare great toe.

"John the Baptist," was John McClintock in private life, and he carried the religious fanaticism of the Angel Dancers so far in his five years' association with them that even the Angel Dancers themselves several times threatened to disown him. He tried to break up several of the Dowle-meetings in this city a year ago.

He preached wherever the spirit in him manifested itself—on the street, in his own home or in a street car. Several times he jumped from his wagon, rushed into a church and insisted on being heard.

Still Talmage says that only infidels suicide. The natural reconciliation of this discrepancy is that Talmage lied.

Salina, Kan.—Enclosed please find another dollar from the old Belgian atheist. I am old and cannot tell when my time will come to return to the infinite atomic universe.—T. A. LAMBOTTE.

CALLED TALE

OF LORD'S FAST AN ALLEGORY.

Said There Was Nothing Miraculous About It, as Jesus Was a Man—A New Mission May Be Formed in Morristown, N. J.

Morristown, N. J., April 5, 1905. The dissensions which have existed amongst the members of St. Peter's Episcopal Church have been intensified by the invitation to the Rev. Elwood Worcester, D. D., rector of Emmanuel Church, Boston, to preach to-morrow evening at the Lenten services. According to those opposed to his preaching here, Dr. Worcester has declared himself unorthodox by a sermon preached Ash Wednesday.

On that occasion Dr. Worcester expressed the opinion that the account of our Lord's 40 days' fast was not to be interpreted literally, but only a "poetical, pictorial allegory," and that there was nothing miraculous about it, as Jesus was a man. Such a statement is contrary to all the doctrines of the Episcopal church, which adheres firmly to the teachings of Christ and the Bible as realities. This new break among the members of the church is liable to bring the long looked for separation and a new mission will be organized here for those members who believe in following the rules of the church strictly.

About Withdrawals.

The sermon referred to as placing Dr. Worcester of Emmanuel church on record as unorthodox in his attitude toward the teachings of the Episcopal church was preached at Emmanuel church, Boston, on Ash Wednesday, March 3.

The topic of Dr. Worcester's sermon was the afternoon of the day mentioned, contained the following quotations:

"Even devout writers have declared that the temptations of Christ can be believed only by simple and credulous people. After long meditation and study I have found what I believe to be the true light in this nebulous matter surrounding these writings of the disciple. 'They are to be explained by the fact that Christ frequently withdrew from his followers to meditate in solitude, and around these withdrawals have been grouped these stories.'"

Dr. Worcester is at present visiting New York City.

Dr. Tanner, in the interest of science, fasted 42 days, beating the record of J. C., 2 days, the doctor giving every opportunity for the public to see that his fast was genuine, while no law, of any civilized country, would regard the evidence of the fast of J. C. as competent in any court.

Since then a religious enthusiast died, from starvation on the 44th day of his fast; so that the fast of Jesus, even if established, proves nothing.

DR. WILSON ON "DR. OSLER'S AGE LIMIT."

In the Searchlight for April is an article on "Dr. Osler's Age Limit," from which I extract the following:

"Three or four hundred years ago they did not allow Liberals to live any great length of time, so we cannot speak positively of those ages. Copernicus and Galileo however, performed their greatest intellectual labors after fifty. Voltaire lived past ninety, and was as vital intellectually at seventy-five as at twenty-five, although he was always frail of body. The same was true of Herbert Spencer, who had just finished 'The Synthetic Philosophy' shortly before he died, at the age of ninety-three. Darwin was never more vigorous than in his later years, and his case alone is sufficient evidence of the shallowness of Osler's theory. The same may be said of Franklin, Victor Hugo, Wagner, Berthelot, Thiers, Combes, Ibsen, Bjergesen, Huxley, Tyndal and many others. Haeckel at seventy, was never more intellectually active. Among contemporary Liberals in this country the most vital and intellectually active have been men and women past forty. Ingersoll was just beginning his famous career at that age. Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Walt Whitman were

vigorous to the last. Here we have Editors Shaw, Moore, Davis, Harman and Geo. Macdonald, whose intellectual fires are not diminished. There is Dr. Foote, Dr. Croffut, Dr. Wetmore, Parish B. Ladd, Daniel K. Tenney, Otto Wettstein, and a host of other names familiar to you all, whom we would not want to see chloroformed. Among Liberals, the old are far more active than the young. I have always claimed that active Liberalism keeps the brain both young and productive. The deadline largely depends upon the object and pursuit in view. Youth makes a greater blaze, but less heat. Prof. Osler can array sufficient instances of youthful genius and accomplishment to make a mighty argument in his favor, but at the same time most of us know that we have to live forty years before we begin to know what fools we have been all our lives."

I certainly appreciate the compliment of being placed in such a category.

Of course Dr. Wilson did not mean to say that he had exhausted the list of all the aged who have done, and are doing good work in their old age, and there are three other men that I wish to add to that list. They are George Jacob Holyoake, of England, Judge Waite of America, and E. G. Coffin of Springfield, Ohio. Hon. Coffin was the warden of the Ohio penitentiary when I was a government convict there."

He is an infidel, and is physically, intellectually and morally a very large man.

While he is now getting no pay for what he does, in his old line, and does not need it, because he is a rich man, he is still working ardently for the good of prisoners. He is the greatest penologist in the world.

If I have to go to that penitentiary again and he is 100 years old, I want him to be warden at the time.

But they can't do anything more to me now, but hang me, and they say after a few minutes you get use to hanging, and that it aint bad.

I used to see fellows hung when I was a newspaper reporter. They didn't kick about it, in a few minutes. I can just blaspheme to my heart's content these times, and they will never send me to the penitentiary any more because it suits me too well.

I am in the penitentiary just like that ole, ole rabbit—born long befo "Brer Rabbit" that Uncle Remus knew—that was so happy when the boy threw him in the briar bushes just for spite.

THE "FIRM FOUNDATION," CAMPBELLITE PAPER—A MARKED COPY COMES TO ME

The Firm Foundation, Campbellite paper of Austin Texas, having 13 editors—not so many as other Campbellite papers in that country—of April 4th, comes to me, having two marked pieces.

In the first of these my man, U. G. (ly) Wilkinson, announces that he will soon issue a book called "Infidelity against itself." He says he does not know what the price will be. I suppose it will be 10 cents, as that is the usual price of the "books" that that gang gets out.

I hope it will have a good long chapter from Zachary on my stealing Muir's hogs. That's a good lead, and they ought to work it for all that's in it.

The other marked piece is as follows:

Infidel Insinuations.

There is an infidel sheet published at Paris, Texas, that says nearly all the Bible heroes and heroines were bad men and bad women. It also traces men and women for ages in its own interpretation, and says through all these decades of time the worship of the true God produced only one virtuous woman, while the worship of heathen gods produced 32,000. It then adds: "At this rate it would pay, even now, to import a few strange gods."

This is a strike at the virtue of American women in order to uphold poor, worthless infidelity. The history of the world is that civilization follows the Bible; that virtue follows Bible acceptance. No infidel can point out one virtue in the position he holds. Not one. But when men, claiming to be decent, must resort to insinuations on the virtue of his mother, sister or daughter because she is trained under Bible teaching, and uses it as an argument for infidelity, shame

hides away to give place to a viler term more capable of representing the act. Terrible, terrible! Yes, a tree is known by its fruits, and this is the fruit of infidelity. If the Bible is of human origin, as so many vainly think, why not produce the human that wrote it? Moreover, the Bible is accepted as an established proposition. It has stood the test of ages, such a test as has withered the life of every other book, and yet it stands as a bright beacon light on the shores of time, pointing to a brighter eternity. If this book must now be denied, let the opposition give the reasons why, and educate the world to a higher sphere. Let them produce the name of the man who wrote it, if he is human, at least let them produce a more sensible and decent argument than to insinuate in the lightning blaze of Bible civilization that Bible women are not the example of citizenship and guidance that they ought to be. You will blush when you read this, and doubt what I say on account of the vile assertions made; but get the March and April numbers of the Examiner, Paris, Texas, and you will see it is sadly so.

—G. W. S.

Those letters, "G. W. S." stand for George Washington Savage.

I met some of the original Savages, out there in the Injun Territory, when I went out there to scrap with Ugly Wilkinson.

The regular Injun Savage who believes that a volcano is God's pipe, that he is smoking, is a nice, kind, gentle man, and while he don't talk much himself, and thereby shows his good sense, and good manners, he listens to me talk with great respect.

But when a Savage gets to eating a Campbellite newspaper, he is hell, especially when he has a George Washington tommyhatchet.

The "F. F."—without the "V." on it—cannot give the name of a single man from Adam to Jesus Christ, and including both, who is mentioned in the Bible as a very prominent Bible character who ought not to have been put in jail or hung, for the rascality that the Bible says he was guilty of, if you except my friend Jimmy who wrote a book of only five chapters in the New Testament.

Nobody but a fool would say "if the Bible is of human origin, produce the human who wrote it," because any man of common intelligence would answer by saying "if the Koran and Mormon are of human origin, produce the human who wrote it."

There are thirteen Bibles of different religions and of course they are all of divine origin because this "untutored Savage" cannot produce the man that wrote any of them.

If any God wrote Savage's Bible, he ought, according to his own logic, to be able to produce the God that wrote it; and so it is that just any old fool talk such as we hear in bug houses and saloons, will do for preachers.

Nobody but a fool would think that what I am not saying is any reflection upon my mother, sister, daughter or wife. That's an old played-out scheme that preachers try on when infidels knock them out with argument. That racket about the "bright beacon light on the shores of time pointing to a bright eternity," reminds me of some of Wilkinson's graft in what he called "debating."

If the Bible was "accepted as an established proposition" that would not at all prove it true, but the fact is that all over Christendom the most learned preachers and professors are saying that the Bible is not true.

Hardly an issue of this paper appears that does not tell of one or more of these theological big-wigs renouncing the Bible.

Go soak your head and get sober, Savage, and see if you can't get to be civilized.

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